

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. No claims are amended and claims 9-18 are being added. No claims are cancelled. This amendment is  
5 believed to be fully responsive to all issues raised in the 2/12/04 Office Action.

OBJECTIONS TO THE OATH/SPECIFICATION

Office Action Point No. 1

The Office Action alleges that the Oath accompanying the Request for  
10 Continuing Examination filed on 6/20/03 is defective. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

MPEP 602 Oath or declaration, subsection IDENTIFICATION OF APPLICATION recites "The following combination of information supplied in an oath or declaration filed on the application filing date with a specification are  
15 acceptable...as complying with the identification requirement of 37 CFR 1.63

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(B) name of inventor(s), and attorney docket number which was on the specification as filed; or

(C) name of inventor(s), and title of the invention which was on the  
20 specification as filed.

The copy of the declaration submitted in the parent case satisfied both elements (B) and (C) above and includes the name of the inventors, the title of the invention and the attorney docket number.

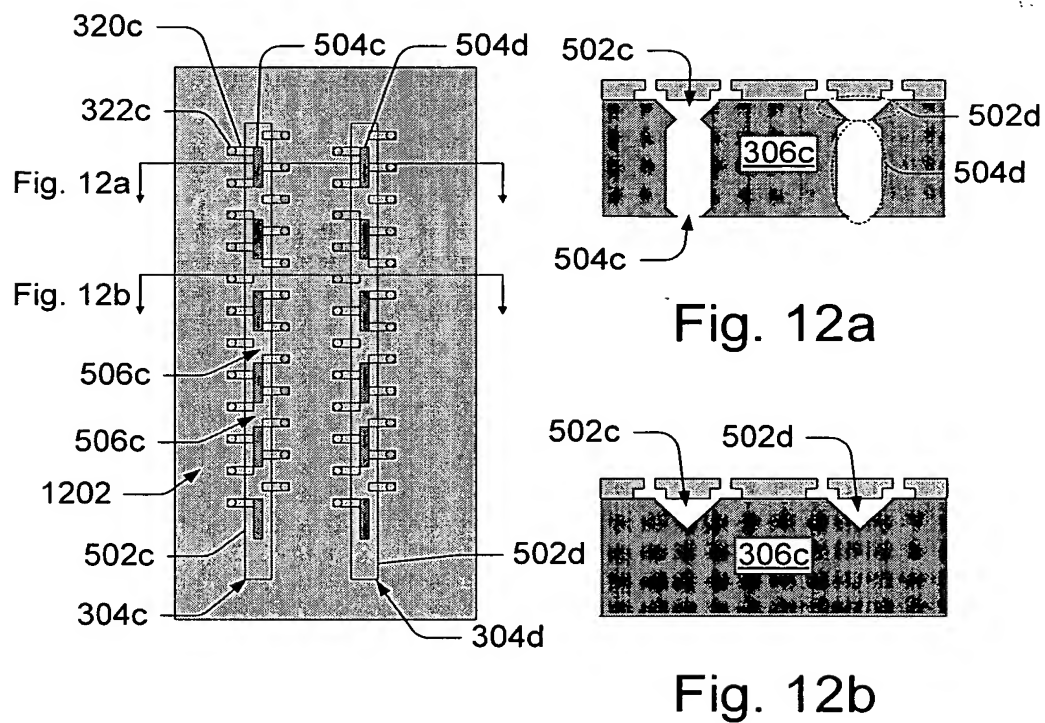
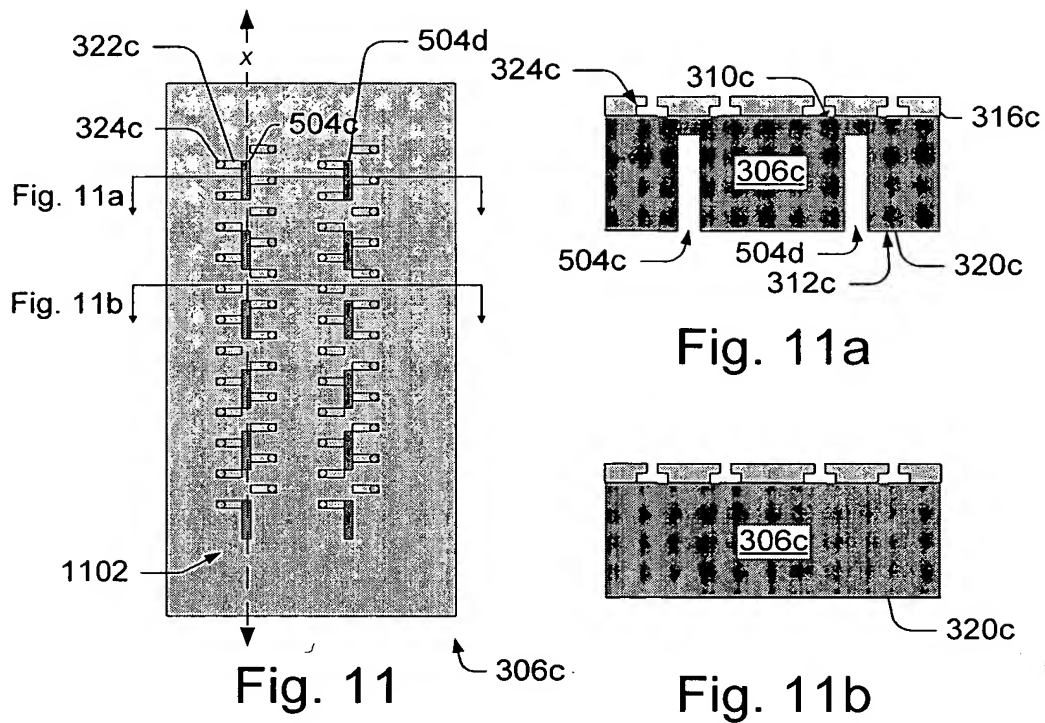
The present application is a continuation filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b).  
5 MPEP 602.05(a) recites "A continuation or divisional application filed under 37  
CFR 1.53(b) may be filed with a copy of the oath or declaration from the prior  
nonprovisional application." Further, "A copy of an oath or declaration from a  
prior application may be submitted with a continuation or divisional application  
even if the oath or declaration identifies the application number of the prior  
10 application." The submitted declaration satisfied the requirements for the parent  
case from which the present case claims priority and as such is satisfies the  
requirements in relation to the present case. Applicant respectfully requests that  
objection be withdrawn.

15 **OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Office Action Point No. 2**

Paragraph number one [0001] is amended as requested by the Office  
Action. Applicant requests that the associated objection be withdrawn.





Office Action Point No. 4

The Office Action objects to Figs. 9 and 10 and states that “Figures 9 and 10 should be designated by a legend such as –Prior Art—because only that which is old is illustrated. Regarding claim 9, Applicant is submitting herewith a revised drawing with the “Prior Art” designator. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action’s representation of Fig. 10. Applicant respectfully directs the Office to paragraph 44 of the specification which recites “The described slotted substrate comprising compound slots can be much stronger than previous designs. Consider Fig. 9 which shows a traditional slotted substrate, and Fig. 10 which shows an exemplary slotted substrate with compound slots.” Applicant requests that the objection to Fig. 9 be withdrawn in light of the revised drawing submitted herewith and that the objection to Fig. 10 be withdrawn in light of the description in the specification.

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Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

20 CLAIM REJECTIONS §112

Office Action Point No. 6

**Claims 1-5** are rejected under §112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the Office Action alleges that the claim language “a cross-section of the trench taken transverse the long axis has a first width that is proximate the first surface that is greater than a second width that is more distal the first surface” is not supported by the specification.

Applicant respectfully directs the Office to Figs. 11-12b and paragraphs 50-66 of the specification. In an attempt to aid the Office, Fig. 12a is illustrated below with augmented designators. Fig. 12a illustrates two trenches 502c, 502d formed in first surface 310c of substrate 306c. First surface 306s is specifically

designated in preceding Fig. 11a. Figs. 11a-11b and 12a-12b illustrate cross-sectional representations taken transverse long axis  $x$  indicated in Fig. 11.

Though the widths of trenches 502c, 502d are not specifically designated in the drawings, examination of the drawings shows the trenches have a first width proximate the first surface that is greater than a second width distal the first

surface. To aid the office, in the attached drawing Applicant indicates a first width  $W1$  and a second width  $w2$  in trench 502d. The originally submitted drawings clearly show such elements. Further, the specification, in at least paragraphs 50-66 ([0050]-[0066]) describe at least one method for forming trenches having such a configuration. As such, Applicant respectfully requests

that the §112 p.1 rejection of claims 1-5 be withdrawn.

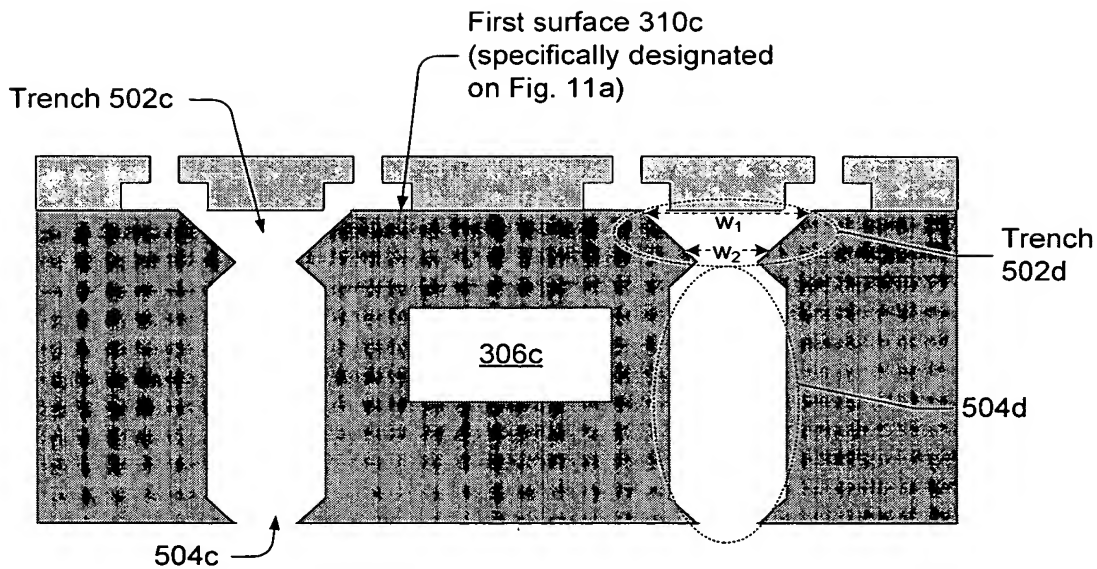


Fig. 12a

Office Action Point No. 8

**Claims 1-4** are rejected under §112, second paragraph as failing to  
5 specifically point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant  
regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Figs. 11-12b  
illustrate an embodiment of subject matter within the scope claim 1, including  
the language "the trenches have a first width proximate the first surface that is  
greater than a second width distal the first surface." As such, Applicant  
10 respectfully requests that the §112 p.2 rejection of claims 1-4 be withdrawn.

New Claims

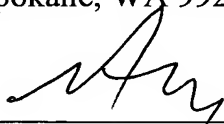
New claims 9-18 are fully supported by the application as originally filed.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-18 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the present application. Should any issue remain that prevents immediate issuance of the application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss the unresolved issue.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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Dated: 5/04/04

  
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